

Message Text

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42

ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USPS-01 INT-05 AF-08 ARA-10
EA-09 NEA-10 L-03 EB-07 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 H-02 /130 R

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EA/RA:LMCNUTT
L/ARA:GCHESTER
EUR/NE:RWOODS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 299326

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, ETEL, UPU

SUBJECT: RENUNCIATION OF TERRITORIES MEMBERSHIP IN
UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (UPU)

REFERENCE: STATE 120923, 189420

1. AFTER REVIEWING THE RESPONSES FROM THE CAPITALS OF
UPU MEMBERS ALSO HOLDING TERRITORIAL MEMBERSHIP, WE
HAVE OBTAINED WORKING LEVEL AGREEMENT TO RENOUNCE THE
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SEPARATE MEMBERSHIP FOR THE WHOLE OF THE TERRITORIES OF

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INCLUDING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS. BEFORE SEEKING APPROVAL TO IMPLEMENT THIS DECISION BY NOTIFICATION TO THE SWISS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON (WITH NOTICE OF RENUNCIATION EFFECTIVE ON 1 JANUARY 1977), WE WISH NOW TO INFORM THE OTHER CAPITALS INVOLVED OF OUR PRELIMINARY DECISION. WHILE WE DO NOT EXPECT ANY ADVERSE REACTIONS, WE INTEND TO WITHHOLD ACTION ON A FINAL DECISION UNTIL DECEMBER 15 OR UNTIL WE HAVE RESPONSES FROM ALL CONCERNED- WHICHEVER TIME COMES SOONER.

2. WE INTEND TO NOTIFY THE SWISS GOVERNMENT THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 23 OF THE UPU CONSTITUTION, U.S. ADHERENCE TO THE UPU WILL INCLUDE IN THE FUTURE THOSE

AREAS FOR WHICH THE U.S. PREVIOUSLY HAD SEPARATE MEMBERSHIP AND FOR WHICH IT HAS INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITY. TERMINATION OF THAT SEPARATE MEMBERSHIP WOULD BECOME EFFECTIVE UNDER ARTICLE 12 ON JANUARY 1, 1978. AT THE SAME TIME WE ALSO INTEND TO INFORM THE UPU DIRECTOR GENERAL SEPARATELY AND DIRECTLY OF OUR INTENTIONS, AND IN ADDITION, THAT WE HAVE FOUND IT INAPPROPRIATE TO PASS ON TO THE VARIOUS TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENTS A UPU QUESTIONNAIRE DATED SEPTEMBER 7 REGARDING MEMBERSHIP FOR NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES.

3. DURING THE UPU CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL FOR POSTAL STUDIES (CCPS) MEETING IN BERN IN NOVEMBER FOR POSTAL SERVICE (USPS) REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDED A MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP (CEPT). AT THIS MEETING HE WAS INFORMED OF THE FOLLOWING:

--A. FRANCE STILL INTENDS TO RENOUNCE ITS SEPARATE MEMBERSHIP BEFORE THE 1979 RIO PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE AND MAY ANNOUNCE ITS DECISION AT NEXT MAY'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING. FRANCE DOES NOT INTEND TO RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE (WHICH HAD A NOVEMBER 30 DEADLINE).

-- B. THE SPANISH DELEGATE THOUGHT HIS GOVERNMENT MIGHT RESPONSE TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE.
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-- C. THE BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE SAID THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS CONSULTING WITH ITS OVERSEAS TERRITORIES AS TO THE QUESTION OF MEMBERSHIP BUT WOULD PROBABLY NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

-- D. THE NETHERLANDS CONSIDERS THE SEPARATE MEMBERSHIP AS BELONGING TO THE ANTILLES AND WOULD LEAVE THE QUESTION

OF RENUNCIATION TO THE ANTILLES GOVERNMENT. THE DUTCH
WOULD NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

-- E. PORTUGAL DID NOT ATTEND.

4. THE USPS REPRESENTATIVE INFORMED THE ATTENDING CEPT
MEMBERS (INCLUDING THE CEPT COUNTRIES WHICH DO NOT HAVE
DUAL UPU MEMBERSHIP) THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS
CONSIDERING RENOUNCING OUR SEPARATE MEMBERSHIP FOR THE
TERRITORIES EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1 AND THAT WE DID NOT
INTEND TO RESPOND TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE. THERE WAS NO
ADVERSE REACTION. DESPITE THIS MEETING OF POSTAL

REPRESENTATIVES AND OUR PREVIOUS CABLES, THE DEPARTMENT
IS UNSURE, HOWEVER, THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTRIES (AS
OPPOSED TO THE NATIONAL POSTAL AUTHORITIES) ARE FULLY
INFORMED AS TO OUR INTENTIONS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: ACTION ADDRESSEES SHOULD DRAM ON
CONTENTS OF THIS CABLE TO INFORM FOREIGN MINISTRIES OF
NOVEMBER DISCUSSIONS IN BERN AND STATE THAT THE U.S.
IS CONSIDERING RENUNCIATION OF SEPARATE TERRITORIAL
MEMBERSHIP. NOTICE OF SUCH RENUNCIATION WOULD BE
EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1977. REACTION SHOULD BE REPORTED
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT IN ANY CASE BEFORE DECEMBER 15.
ROBINSON

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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